

**Pike and San Isabel National Forests, Cimarron and Comanche National Grasslands (PSICC)
Upper Monument Creek Adaptive Management EIS
Cultural Resources Report**

The 70,600 acre Upper Monument Creek (UMC) project is located within the Pikes Peak Ranger District. To date, only 8,410 acres (11%) of the proposed project area has been surveyed for the presence of cultural resources. Forty previous studies were conducted within the proposed project area. However, half of those surveys were completed more than twenty years ago. Due to significant changes in archaeological recording standards, sites that were recorded that long ago would have to be re-visited and re-evaluated.

Because only a small percentage of the planning area has been surveyed in this large landscape-scale project, the undertaking will require a phased process within the area of potential effect (APE) to conduct identification and evaluation efforts pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4(b)(2) and phased application of criteria of adverse effect at 36 CFR 800.5(a)(3). In order to conduct a phased approach to cultural resource survey, a programmatic agreement must be executed since the effects of landscape-scale undertakings cannot be fully determined prior to signing National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) decision documents (36 CFR §800.14(b)(1)(ii)).

The term cultural resource refers to any definite location or object of past human activity, occupation, or use, such as historic or architectural objects, sites, structures, or places that may contain the potential for public and scientific value. Included in this definition are places that may be of traditional cultural, ethnic, or religious significance to a specific social or cultural group. Cultural resources are located, classified, ranked, and managed in order to identify, protect, and utilize them for public benefit. Fragile and irreplaceable, cultural resources represent an integral part of the American heritage. Cultural resources represent physical locations of human activity, occupation, or use identified through field inventories, historical documentation, and/or oral evidence. Archaeological resources are a subset of cultural resources that include any material remains of human life or activities that are at least fifty years old for historic properties under the National Historic Preservation Act (NRHP), or at least 100 years old under the provisions of the Archaeological Resources Protection Act, and are of archaeological interest (as defined in 43 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] 7.3).

Prehistoric or historic cultural resource sites, structures, or objects listed on, or eligible for listing on the NRHP are managed as directed by 36 CFR 800, Protection of Historic and Cultural Properties. These regulations stipulate that cultural resources must be assessed for integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. A property may be considered eligible for listing on the NRHP if it retains sufficient integrity of these elements and meets certain criteria outlined in National Register Bulletin 15 (NPS 1997a). As listed in 36 CFR Part 60, Historic Properties (including prehistoric and historic archaeological sites and places considered important to Native Americans) must meet a specific set of criteria:

- The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association
- Association with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history
- Association with the lives of persons significant in our past

- Embodiment of the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction
- Yielding, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history (NPS 1997a)

Current Conditions

Cultural resources include prehistoric and historic archaeological and architectural structures, features, and objects, as well as Native American traditional cultural and religious properties and properties important to other cultural groups. Prehistoric properties include lithic scatters, quarries, temporary camps, extended camps, wickiups, hunting/kill/butchering sites, processing areas, rock shelters, formative era stone structures, caves, rock art panels, trails, and isolated finds. Historic properties include homesteads, trails and roads, irrigation ditches, reservoirs, mining sites, corrals, line camps, cabins, trash scatters, and isolated finds. Together these properties represent human use of the area by Native American and Euroamerican cultures, covering a timeframe from the Paleoindian period (13, 4000 B.P) through the present. Table XX provides a description of these cultural periods.

Table XX Cultural Periods

Era	Time Period	Temporal Indicators
Paleo-Indian	13,4000-7,500 B.P	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Broad spectrum of flora and fauna resources ○ Emphasis on big game subsistence ○ Characterized by projectile point styles
Archaic	c.a. 8,000-2,000 B.P.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Decreased dependence on big game hunting ○ Increased dependence on vegetal gathering ○ Greater diversity in projectile point technology ○ Emergence of seasonal camps
Late Prehistoric	A.D. 1 -1500	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Increased population ○ Increased semi-permanent habitations, decreased mobility ○ Introduction of ceramics ○ Increase reliance on plant resources ○ Introduction of bow and arrow
Protohistoric	A.D. 1500-1860	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Increased permanent habitations ○ Increased tool technology ○ European contact ○ European expansion into the Western US ○ Fur trading
Historic	A.D. 1860-1950	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mining • Homesteading • Ranching • Logging • Transportation Development

Resource Conditions

The condition of a cultural resource is assessed through field observation, inventory, and project review. The primary indicator is whether the characteristics that would qualify a resource for listing on the NRHP, or the cultural values of an area important to Native American or other traditional communities, have been lost or diminished. These characteristics can be affected by physical destruction, damage, neglect, alteration, isolation, transfer, sale, or lease of a resource, or modification of the resource setting. Specific indicators include the extent or intensity of natural weathering, erosion, wildfire, ground disturbance, grazing, recreation use, and unauthorized collection, intrusion, and vandalism. This kind of loss affects the completeness and accuracy of the scientific information that can be derived from a resource, the aesthetic, historic, or interpretive value of a resource, and the importance of a resource in maintaining social and cultural traditions.

The prehistoric site types expected to be present in the project planning area include open lithic scatters and architectural sites, sheltered camps and habitations, quarries, and rock art panels. To date, only two types of prehistoric site types have been recorded: open and sheltered lithic scatters. Both site types are very similar in that they contain a scattering of artifacts, and no architectural features. However, other features, such as hearths, may be present. Hearths often contain material that can be used to date a site. Thus, sites containing hearths are often recommended as eligible for listing on the NRHP because they have the potential to provide additional scientific information beyond what can be seen on the surface.

Historic site types expected to be found in the project area include those associated with mining, transportation, homesteading, ranching, recreation, logging, water conveyance, and civilian conservation corps activities (CCC).

Since the 1970's, various large and small cultural projects have been conducted in the planning area. A total of forty studies have been completed, which resulted in 8,410 acres being surveyed for cultural resources. The projects included those for timber sales, ecosystem management, seismograph studies, power lines, fuels reduction, post-fire restoration, and wildlife habitation improvement, among others. In addition, the proposed project area includes The Monument Nursery, which is a part of a larger historical district that is listed on the State Register of Historic Places, and is Officially Eligible for listing on the NRHP. Various projects have been conducted specifically on the Monument Nursery, and its associated historic buildings.

The cultural resource surveys conducted to date have resulted in the identification and recordation of sixty-two archaeological sites. The sites are predominately historic resources (n=52), with a small representation of prehistoric sites (n=10). In addition, twenty-eight isolated finds were recorded. Again, the majority of which are historic (n = 22), compared with prehistoric resources (n = 6). Of the total sites recorded, eight are considered officially eligible for listing on the NRHP, while seven are recommended as "needs data officially". Sites that are recommended, or officially determined, as needing more data must be treated as eligible until a professional archaeologist who meets the Secretary of the Interior Standards can re-evaluate the eligibility determination and consult with the Colorado State Historic Preservation Office (CO SHPO). In addition, ten sites do not have a recommended eligibility determination so they must be re-evaluated prior to any project undertaking.

Two open lithic sites previously recorded in the project area are officially eligible for listing on the NRHP, while, one needs more data and four are not eligible. Three sheltered sites documented did not have an evaluation given when they were recorded in 1975. Given that these sites were recorded nearly forty years ago, they will need to be re-recorded and evaluated for an NRHP determination prior to implementation of the project. Table XX provides an overview of the known prehistoric sites and their eligibility determinations.

Table XX Previously Recorded Prehistoric Sites in the Planning Area

Prehistoric Site Type	Percentage of Occurrence	NRHP Eligibility
Open Lithic	70%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eligible, Officially n = 2 • Needs Data, Officially n = 1 • Not Eligible, Officially n = 3 • Not Eligible, Field n = 1
Sheltered Lithic	30%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need Re-evaluation n = 3

The majority of the historic sites recorded in the planning area are linear features. This site type include roads, trails, and water conveyance systems, among others. Twenty-one linear sites are historic road segments, while one is an aqueduct. The next predominate site type are historic habitations. These sites contain the remains of cabins and associated structures that were occupied at least seasonally. The remainder of historic site types previously documented include those associated with mining activities (adit, shaft, or prospect pit), trash dumps, water features (tank, or dam), and temporary camps. Table XX provides a summary of historic sites found and their NRHP eligibility determinations.

Table XX Previously Recorded Historic Sites in the Planning Area

Historic Site Type	Percentage of Occurrence	NRHP Eligibility
Linear	42%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Needs Data, Officially n = 1 • Needs Re-evaluation n = 4 • Not Eligible, Officially n = 17
Habitation	21%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eligible, Officially n = 1 • Needs Data, Officially n = 5 • Not Eligible, Officially n = 4 • Not Eligible, Field n = 1
Mining	1%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not Eligible, Officially n = 2 • No Assessment Given n = 3
Camp	Less than 1%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not Eligible, Officially n = 1 • Not Eligible, Field n = 2
Water Feature	Less than 1%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eligible, Officially n = 2 • Not Eligible, Officially n = 1
Trash Dump	Less than 1%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not Eligible, Officially n = 1 • Not Eligible, Field n = 2
Historic Recreation	Less than 1%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eligible, Officially n = 2
Machinery	Less than 1%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not Eligible, Field n = 1 •

Direct Effects

All of the prehistoric and historic sites types already recorded, or expected to be found in the project area are vulnerable to the direct effects from forest restoration treatments that may include mechanical thinning with product removal, mastication, hand thinning, and prescribed fire to create the desired conditions for ecosystem diversity. The historic sites that contain wooden elements are particularly vulnerable to fire, albeit wildland, or managed fire events. All project associated activities that include ground disturbance, such as road construction and/or improvements, construction and decommissioning of trails, and mechanical fuels treatments, have the potential to damage archaeological features, uncover buried sites, and displace and/or damage artifacts.

Indirect effects

Indirect effects that may result from implementation of this project include a potential for access to sites that were previously remote. This may result in increased vandalism to archaeological resources from new and increased recreational opportunities, the unauthorized collection of artifacts, increased erosion, and trampling and disbursement of artifacts as a result of increased foot and vehicular traffic.